

The San Bernardino County Museum Guest Lecture Series

# What's Doin' Down South?

**Recent archaeology in the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park®**

**Joan Schneider, Ph.D.**

*Associate State Archaeologist, Colorado Desert District*

**Wednesday, October 25, 2006 • 7:30PM • Free Admission**

In the earlier years of archaeological survey in the California deserts, the Archaeological Survey Association, as well as many well-known early investigators, such as Malcolm Rogers, Adan Tregenza, William and Edith Wallace, Clem Meighan, and others worked in the Colorado Desert. Within the boundaries of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and other state parklands in the region, archaeological research has taken a somewhat different approach, but is always based on the work of our predecessors. The extremely archaeologically rich (both prehistoric and historic) parklands hold more sites than all of the other state parks combined. Come and hear about very recent work in Coyote Canyon, Borrego Palm Canyon, Piedras Grandes, and Carrizo Creek areas — some of which are still in-progress — at both prehistoric and historic sites. Check out an overview of major projects such as Meg McDonald's excavations at Indian Hill Rockshelter, Joan Oxendine's excavations at Barrel Springs, Mike Sampson's excavations at Mine Wash Village, and others. Find out what we learned about using helicopters for survey in the hard-to-get-to Colorado Desert "outback."



**Dr. Joan Schneider** received both a M.S. and a Ph.D. degree in Anthropology from UC Riverside. She worked as a Research Associate for a number of years there and then became Interim Executive Director for the Western Center for Archaeology and Paleontology at Diamond Valley Lake in Hemet. Since 2001, she has been a part of the archaeological staff of the Colorado Desert District, California State Parks, as Associate State Archaeologist. Her research interests are focused on the technology and anthropology of rock quarrying, the tools used by women in prehistory, the roles that women played in prehistoric lifeways, and the prehistoric archaeology of arid regions. She has worked extensively in the Mojave, Colorado, Sonoran, and Negev deserts, in the Peninsula Ranges east of San Diego, and has an on-going research project in Israel. For her work in the Middle East, she has received grants from the Samuel E. Kress Foundation and the Irene Levi-Sala Archaeological Research

Foundation. She has published in international, national, regional, and local professional journals including publications of the San Bernardino County Museum Association.



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